Where to look for information on lenses (primarily large format)?

Read this: This PDF document has bookmarks that function as an index. If you read it in a web browser there's no guarantee that the bookmarks will be displayed. Firefox and MS Edge don't display them. To get the most benefit from my list of links, download it and read it with a PDF reader such as Adobe Reader or tell your browser to open it with a PDF reader.

Links are ephemeral. There's no guarantee that any of the links below still works. If a link doesn't work, look for it at www.archive.org. I point out links that are not archived. None of the links to https://onedrive.live.com is archived.

Information given on the sites listed is, in general, incomplete and inconsistent. If you can't live with ambiguity and confusion, hide under your bed.

A number of lens types were made for many years, some with periodic major redesigns, others without. Either way, coverage claims change over time. "Fast" tessar types' coverage has grown with redesigns. Dagor types' coverage has shrunk with reconsideration of what coverage means. Be skeptical of all catalogs' coverage claims, older catalogs in particular are optimistic.

All sorts of lenses:

http://www.cameraeccentric.com/info.html cameraeccentric.com vanished for a while, recently came back. As of August 26, 2017 the most recent save on archive.org is https://web.archive.org/web/20170120193805/http://www.cameraeccentric.com/info.html Many catalogs, some listed below: Bausch & Lomb, Busch, Cooke-TTH, Dallmeyer, Fujinon, Goerz American, Graf, HorsemanIlex, Kodak, Komura, Gundlach, Meyer, Oscar Zwierzina, Pinkham & Smith, Rodenstock, Ross, Schneider, Staeble, Steinheil, Voigtländer, Wollensak, Zeiss. Also camera catalogs and instruction manuals. Look here before asking a question on a bulletin board.

http://savazzi.freehostia.com/photography/default.htm

http://www.dioptrique.info/ More than 1,000 lens prescriptions, most taken from patents, with calculated performance

http://www.graflex.org/lenses/lens-spec.html Michael Gudzinowicz' list.

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/ Read the lens FAQs.

http://cnum.cnam.fr/ Cnum, Bibliothèque numérique en histoire des sciences et des techniques (digital library of the history of science and techniques) contains much material on photography including lens makers' catalogs. Most of the documents it holds are in French. It is well worth rooting around in. Hint: when you find a link to an interesting document, clicking on it will take you to a page with an Exports or

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Exportation du Document button. Clicking on that button will take you to another page with "Télécharger ce document au format PDF" Clicking on this will download the document as a pdf. Cnum's front page is archived, the contents aren't.
A Lens Collector's Vade Mecum. A book originally published on CD ROM, now available as a download from http://www.antiquecameras.net/ ~ 700 pp. Idiosyncratic, incomprehensible, inconsistent, sometimes incorrect, often infuriating, invaluable.

http://www.marcocavina.com/sommario.htm Interesting site, well worth exploring. Most pages are in Italian.

http://www.globalmatter-lab.net/catalog.htm Tables of specifications for some LF Schneider, Topcor, Nikkor, Rodenstock and Fujinon lenses (in that order). Gives flange-focal distances. Much the same table is also at
http://www.ebonycamera.com/articles/lenses.html

http://books.google.com/books?id=rzH31j84pn8C&source=gbs_all_issues_r&cad=1
Popular Photography magazine, 1/81 – 12/99

http://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/rlrindex.htm Pacific Rim Camera's reference library. Very mixed bag. The front page is archived, inner pages with useful information are, for the most part, not. I've archived a few that I think are important.

http://www.largeformatcameras.net/ has many catalogs, most quite old, including all of the catalogs on http://www.cameraeccentric.com/info.html. I haven't archived them or checked to see whether they've been archived. I also haven't listed everything on the site. They include:

Berthiot, Lacour Berthiot and SOM Berthiot: 1892 [actually 1908], 1912, 1915, 1922, 1926, 1950, no date
Busch 1909
Dallmeyer 1881, 1896, 1900, 1910, 1915, 1930
Derogy 1892, 1905, 1910, no date
Français 1887, 1889
Krauss 1901, 1906, 1908, 1926
Goerz [a mixture, Berlin, London and New York] 1895, 1907, 1914, 1916, no date
Hermagis 1886, 1900, 1919, 1930, 1931, no date
Ross 1930, 19302, 1937, 1940, no date
Staeble 1911
Steinheil 1892, 1931
Voigtländer 1903, 1906, 1910, 1910s, 1913, 1914, 1920, 1925, 1930, 1931, 1936, no date
Zeiss 1891, 1892, 1910, 1927, 1932, no date

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Ancient lenses:

http://www.antiquecameras.net/ This site is well worth exploring. A Lens Collectors' Vade Mecum can be bought through it.

http://piercevaubel.com/cam/catalogsall.htm There's a lot to wade through. There are lens catalogs and lenses are mentioned in camera catalogs; the site is strongly focused on U.S. wooden field cameras. Brought to my attention by Louis Pacilla, to whom much credit is due. **Links to the site's lens catalogs**, mainly from US lens makers, are at http://piercevaubel.com/cam/catalogslenses.htm

Fabre, Charles - Traité encyclopédique de photographie. In French. http://cnum.cnam.fr/CGI/redir.cgi?8KE304 links to a page that offers all eight volumes. Not archived, alas.

Vol. 1 – 1889 Optics, lenses, shutters, cameras and more

Vol. 2 – 1890 Phototypes Négatives (no lenses)

Vol. 3 – 1890 Phototypes positifs. Photocopies. Photocalques. Phototirages (no lenses)

Vol. 4 – 1890 – Agrandissements – Applications de la Photographie (no lenses)

Vol. 5 – First supplement A 1892 General update, many lenses

Vol. 6 – Second supplement B 1897 General update, many lenses

Vol. 7 – Third supplement C 1902 General update, many lenses

Vol. 8 – Fourth supplement D 1906 Update, primarily lenses

http://www.suaudeau.eu/memo/Fabre/Fabre.html has Fabre's 1889 Vol. 1 with 1892, 1897, 1902 and 1906 supplements. Much harder to use than the version on cnum but the scans are much better.

http://www.thedallmeyerarchive.com/index2.html Information on Dallmeyer lenses made between 1860 and 1900.

Anthony, E. & H. T. & Co: Illustrated catalogue of photographic equipments and materials for amateurs. http://cnum.cnam.fr/CGI/redire.cgi?M11161 Cameras, lenses and much more. Not archived, alas.

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http://www.lulu.com/shop/paul-lipscombe/the-use-of-historic-lenses-in-contemporary-photography/ebook/product-17528593.html I don't have this e-book and haven't read it but it has been reviewed well and is probably worth getting.

Eder, J. M. Ausführliches Handbuch der Photographie. Band I. Heft 1. Geschichte der Photochemie und Photographie vom Alterthume bis in die Gegenwart. 1893. In German. http://cnum.cnam.fr/CGI/redire.cgi?8KE362.1.2 Not archived, alas.

ANSI film holder specifications:

http://home.earthlink.net/~eahoo/page8/filmhold.html Yes, I know, no lenses involved. This page is on a site on building an LF camera. The site's front page is http://home.earthlink.net/~eahoo/camera.html

Aperture scales:

https://1drv.ms/x/s!AggQfcczvHGN0xsB4NcsdXPBYZGU The spreadsheet has two sheets, Scales and Formulas.

Berthiot lenses:

Berthiot anastigmats for large format cameras, contains links to all of the on-line Berthiot catalogs I'm aware of. I don't recommend going to the catalogs because the lenses' specifications and designations changed over time. The article reports on this. Its easy to go to the wrong catalog.

http://www.galerie-photo.com/berthiot_anastigmats_fr.pdf (in French)

http://www.galerie-photo.com/berthiot_anastigmats_en.pdf (in English)

Books on closeup photography and photomacrography:

Angel, Heather. 1987 (revised, originally published in 1983). Book of Close-Up Photography. Originally published by Ebury, London. Revised edition published by A. A. Knopf Inc. 168 pp. ISBN 0394532325. A much better book than John Shaw's Closeups In Nature. If nothing else, she uses and discusses more than Nikons. Angel does the John Shaw thing better than he does.

Blaker, Alfred A. 1976. Field Photography. W. H. Freeman & Co. San Francisco, CA. 451 pp. ISBN 0-7167-0518-4. A deep discussion of all aspects of photography, with considerable emphasis on close-up. Discusses getting the magnification, lighting, and exposure. Weaker than Lefkowitz on working above 1:1, stronger on lighting, especially flash. Extensive bibliography.

Bracegirdle, Brian. 1995. Scientific PhotoMACROgraphy. Bios Scientific Publishers. Oxford. 105 pp. ISBN 1 872748 49 X. A terse drier updated version of Lefkowitz. Very useful bibliography, unfortunately scattered into small sections after most chapters.

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Gibson, H. Lou. Close-Up Photography and Photomacrography. 1970. Publication N-16. Eastman Kodak Co. Rochester, NY. 98+95+6 pp. The two sections were published separately as Kodak Publications N-12A and N-12B respectively. Republished in 1977 with changes and without the 6 page analytic supplement, which was published separately as Kodak Publication N-15. 1977 edition is ISBN 0-87985-206-2. Gibson is very strong on lighting, exposure, and on what can and cannot be accomplished. His books, although relatively weak on getting the magnification with lenses made for modern SLR cameras, provide a very useful foundation for thinking about working at magnifications above 1:10 and especially above 1:1. Extensive bibliography.

Lefkowitz, Lester. 1979. The Manual of Close-Up Photography. Amphoto. Garden City, NY. 272 pp. ISBN 0-8174-2456-3 (hardbound) and 0-8174-2130-0 (softbound). A thorough discussion of getting the magnification, lighting, and exposure. Especially good on working above 1:1. Extensive bibliography.

Books on LF photography:

Simmons, Steve. 2015. Using the View Camera: A Creative Guide to Large Format Photography. Echo Point Books & Media. 146 pp. ISBN 1626540772, 978-1626540774. There are many editions. Highly recommended on the US large format forum.

Stone, Jim. 2003. A User's Guide to the View Camera. Pearson. 166 pp. ISBN 0130981168, 978-0130981165. There are many editions. Highly recommended on the French large format forum even though it is in English.

Stroebel, Leslie D. 1999. View Camera Technique. Focal Press. 376 pp. ISBN 0240803450, 9780240803456. There are many editions. Highly recommended on the US large format forum.

Boyer lenses:

http://www.galerie-photo.com/boyer-lens-optic.html (English)

http://www.galerie-photo.com/boyer-optique-objectif.html (French)

https://1drv.ms/u/s!AggQfcczvHGNzi2r5KNS4RrpMpv-?e=eBdp0f CEDIS-Boyer fiches techniques. In French. Boyer made many lenses that do not fit shutters as described here.

Camera manuals (>5,500), mainly small format, and catalogs of all sorts:

http://www.butkus.org/chinon/index.html

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Center filters for large format lenses:

http://www.galerie-photo.com/center-filters-for-large-format-lenses.html (English)

http://www.galerie-photo.com/filtres-concentriques-pour-objectifs-grand-format.html (French)

Chronologies: lenses, cameras and shutters

Pont, Patrice-Hervé 2000. Les Chiffres Clés. Éditions de Pécari. ISBN2-912848-14-8. Out-of-print, perhaps available from www.fnac.com. Make sure you get the 3d edition. I believe it is the latest. Take it all with a healthy dose of skepticism.

Computar f/9 lenses:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?10255-The-Computar-lens-and-ULF-coverage/page10 See post # 97. Read it carefully. Coverages claimed in text are much larger than coverages claimed in the tables.

Congo lenses (Yamasaki Optical):

http://web.archive.org/web/20120419205958/http://www.cosmonet.org/congo/index_e.html The company has been wound up and its site is gone but archive.org has many vintages of it.

Coverage closer than infinity given coverage at infinity:

See post #3 in this http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?67361-Calculating-lens-coverage discussion.

Dagors' coverage:

https://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?13109-Lousy-Dagor A wide-ranging and very funny discussion, with an exaggerating eBay seller tripped up by his own claims.

Depth of field and Scheimpflug's rule:

www.largeformatphotography.info/scheimpflug-DOF-bigler-english.pdf

DIY:

DIY discussions on the US LF Forum:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/forumdisplay.php?31 Not archived, and you'll have to look through the topics to find what you might want.

Jon Grepstad's DIY 4x5 camera:

https://jongrepstad.com/building-a-large-format-camera/

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Simple bag bellows (mine):

http://www.galerie-photo.com/bag-bellows.html

Another bag bellows, more elegant:

http://colinflanarygraham.com/darkshop/?p=4353

A large shutter:

http://www.galerie-photo.com/construire-obturateur-grande-taille.html (in French)

Ground Glass:

https://www.lomography.com/magazine/52936-grinding-your-own-focus-screen
Well-illustrated step-by-step instructions. And a tip of the hat to Ian Grant.

Colin Graham's site:

http://colinflanarygraham.com/darkshop/ Many, many good things and ideas. If you're thinking of making camera, bellows, tripod, film holders, … explore it.

Docter Optic LF lenses 1991-6

http://www.arnecroell.com/docter.pdf

East bloc LF lenses:

http://www.arnecroell.com/eastern-bloc-new Meyer Görlitz. Meopta, Czechoslovakia. PZO, Poland. Lenses from the former Soviet Union.

For more on lenses from the former Soviet Union, see Soviet lenses

Elcan lenses for aerial cameras:

https://onedrive.live.com/redir?resid=8D71BC33C77D1008!406&authkey=!AE0e-Q_z03YkaQc&ithint=file%2cpdf

Enhanced focusing screens:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/gg.html Most of the links are dead. If you want the information they contain, use archive.org to find archived versions.

Enlarging lenses (a few):

http://ctein.com/booksmpl.htm Really a book on printing, but it reports on tests of a number of enlarging lenses.

http://www.khbphotografix.com/Used/Omicron.htm Omega Omicrons.

http://web.archive.org/web/20160326041241/http://www.savazzi.net/photography/old_literature.htm Has El-Nikkor catalogs and more.

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Schneider and Rodenstock, see those sections below.

Entrance Pupil and how to properly measure Lens Speed:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?114769

Exposure compensation for magnification/bellows compensation:

https://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?150304-Bellows-compensation-for-S-K-300mm-f5-5-Tele-Xenar See posts 4 and 13.

Exposure meters:

see Light meters:

Filter sizes:

Go to the lens manufacturer's catalog.

http://www.bhphotovideo.com/FrameWork/Product_Resources/SourceBookProPhoto/Section04LgFormatLenses.pdf has an incomplete list for Nikon, Schneider and Rodenstock LF lenses

Fujinon LF lenses:

http://www.subclub.org/fujinon/index.htm look here first, it is the most complete

http://www.thalmann.com/largeformat/fujinon.htm

http://web.archive.org/web/20170123102058/http://cameraeccentric.com/html/info/fujinon_1.html 1979 catalog

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00886/00886.pdf Fuji Fujinon Professional Lens Sales Brochure. Might be from 1977.

http://www.ebonycamera.com/articles/lenses.html

Goerz American lenses:

http://web.archive.org/web/20170606145746/http://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00268/00268.pdf Red dot Artar brochure

http://web.archive.org/web/20170606150221/http://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00276/00276.pdf Undated catalog. Downloadable, easier to read than the version on http://web.archive.org/web/20161018062941/http://www.cameraeccentric.com/info.html

https://web.archive.org/web/20170726133932/http://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00574/00574.pdf 1916 Goerz American catalog. Earliest mention I've seen of the Gotar.

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Goerz American Optical Company associated with American Optical Company?

Not according to this semi-official AO history:
http://opticalheritagemuseum.org/pdfs/AO%20History%20DianeMatuckArticleForMAOpticians%20Nov%202010.pdf

Goerz American serial numbers:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/classic-experts.html I'm not at all sure that these are correct or even make sense.

Goerz Berlin:

https://www.largeformatcameras.net/ has 1895 (New York Office, a subsidiary of Goerz Berlin), 1907 (in French, still from Berlin), and 1914 (London, still Berlin) catalogs

Graflex stuff:

Graphic press cameras, Graflex SLRs and accessories, mainly post-WW II

https://1drv.ms/f/s!AggQfcczvHGN7QPLzcnfQqi0-7pf Charles Monday kindly posted these on his Google Drive. He's announced that his Google Drive may soon go away so I've taken the liberty of posting them all to my OneDrive. Not archived. Manuals, parts lists, ...

Graflex manuals:

http://www.southbristolviews.com/pics/Graphic/graphicmanuals.html I'm not sure these are properly archived.

http://www.butkus.org/chinon/graflex.htm Not archived.

http://www.butkus.org/chinon/graflex/graflex_service_parts/graflex_service_parts.htm repair manuals for Graflex XL, roll holders. Not archived.

Grafmatic user manual:

http://graflex.org/speed-graphic/grafmatic/

http://www.graflex.org/

Always look here.

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/rlgraflexmisc.htm

Links to catalogs, brochures and manuals. Worth exploring.

Graphics' minimum & maximum extensions:

https://1drv.ms/x/s!AggQfcczvHGN2SQA6nudVURbcUFI

http://www.speedgraphic.fr/

Laurent de Miollis' site. He's in Paris, buys, sells and services Graphics. Site in French but Laurent speaks English.

Gundlach lenses:

http://web.archive.org/web/20170606151409/http://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00248/00248.pdf Also Turner-Reich lenses and Korona cameras.

Horseman Teleconverter:

http://www.galerie-photo.com/horseman-2xlf-teleconverter.html

Horseman/Topcor lenses (some cameras too):

http://web.archive.org/web/20160929124330/http://www.cameraeccentric.com:80/html/info/horseman_2.html 1988 catalog.

How sharp can you get?

https://www.flickr.com/photos/nesster/4424744296/sizes/o/
https://www.flickr.com/photos/nesster/4424744224/sizes/o/ Terrifying articles from Modern Photography magazine. They make the point that getting 100 lp/mm on film is extremely difficult.

Ilex lenses:

http://www.galerie-photo.com/ilex-lenses.html Primarily post-1965

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00375/00375.pdf Burke & James Acu lenses catalog. Ilex' last gasp.

Ilex/Melles-Griot electronic shutters, DIY controller

http://www.chemie.unibas.ch/~holder/shutter/

Kodak lenses:

http://www.bnphoto.org/ This site is hard to navigate, is worth the effort.

https://web.archive.org/web/20181014102442/http://home.earthlink.net/~michaelbriggs/aeroektar/aeroektar.html Aero-Ektars and radiation hazards therefrom.

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/01539/01539.pdf Aero , Cathode Ray Tube, and High Resolution Ektars. Specialized lenses not of general interest.

Kodak roll film numbers, sizes and formats

http://bvipirate.com/Kodak/

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Komura lenses:

allphotolenses.com/public/files/pdfs/9c85de281eee10b265e9aa77511316ab.pdf 35 mm and Bronica lenses too.

E. Krauss:

1906 catalog (lenses, cameras, and more): http://cnum.cnam.fr/CGI/redir.cgi?M11120 In French. Not archived, alas.

1924 catalog (lenses, cameras, and more): http://cnum.cnam.fr/CGI/redir.cgi?M12208 In English. Not archived, alas.

1926 catalog (lenses, cameras, and more): http://cnum.cnam.fr/CGI/redir.cgi?M12207 In French. Not archived, alas.

Lens board dimensions:

http://www.skgrimes.com/products/lens-boards Not archived.

Lens tests:

http://www.hevanet.com/cperez/index1.html Selected LF lenses, some medium format, tested using a USAF 1951 target.

http://www.arnecroell.com/lenstests.pdf Resolution (sagittal, tangential) center, intermediate and corners at 10% and 50% MTF for selected LF lenses. Includes a number of process lenses.

Light meters:

Horseman Exposure meters:

http://www.galerie-photo.com/horseman-4x5-exposure-meter.html

Many:

http://www.jollinger.com/photo/meters/

Weston:

http://www.westonmeter.org.uk/ See Manuals & Repair for Weston Rating-ASA/ISO comparison

Linhof wide angle device:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?141390-Linhof-wide-angle-device-what-s-the-scoop/page3 post 30 explains 'em

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Measuring focal length:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?61880-Petzval-nodal-point&p=584863#post584863

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/archive/index.php/t-16692.html

Mercury batteries, substitutes for:

discussed in http://www.galerie-photo.com/horseman-4x5-exposure-meter.html

Meyer Plasmat lenses:

www.ihagee.org/Lenzen/HMG3-1938E-PlasmatLenses.pdf Primarily LF. 1938 catalog.

Modern (relatively) LF and medium format gear:

https://static.bhphotovideo.com/FrameWork/Product_Resources/SourceBookProPhoto/Pro-Photo-SourceBook.pdf First edition, 1998, 603 pp.

Nikon LF lenses:

http://web.archive.org/web/20160326041241/http://www.savazzi.net/photography/old_literature.htm LF lenses catalogs and more. His list of Nikon process lenses is incomplete.

http://www.kenleegallery.com/pdf/Nikkor_LargeFormatLenses.pdf for the 2004 LF lenses catalog.

https://onedrive.live.com/redir?resid=8D71BC33C77D1008!348&authkey=!ALorNvMYL0EZupo&ithint=folder%2cpdf for 1982 and 2004 LF lenses catalogs

Nikon process lenses:

http://www.galerie-photo.com/apo-process-nikkors-en.html All of 'em.

http://web.archive.org/web/20160326041241/http://www.savazzi.net/photography/old_literature.htm Catalog listing dialyte type Apo-Nikkors, has dimensions.

https://1drv.ms/b/s!AggQfcczvHGNm2ZWk2BtnZa4MHJG Older catalog with information on tessar type Apo-Nikkors, part of a larger collection of Nikon literature given to me by Vivek Iyer, to whom all credit is due.

Older modern view cameras:

Arca-Swiss (Oschwald era):

http://www.galerie-photo.com/manuels/catalogue-arca-swiss-oschwald.pdf In French and German.

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http://www.galerie-photo.com/manuels/depliant-arca-swiss-oschwald-allemand-A3.pdf In German.

Calumet CC-400 and -401:

http://web.archive.org/web/20170123141235/http://cameraeccentric.com/html/info/calumet_3.html These instructions also apply to the "shorty" CC-402.

http://web.archive.org/web/20161028043244/http://www.cameraeccentric.com:80/html/info/calumet_2.html

Cambo SC (none archived):

https://static.cambo.com/Files/SC2_Manual.pdf -- assembling the Cambo SC

https://static.cambo.com/Files/Handbook-SC.pdf -- using the Cambo SC

https://static.cambo.com/Files/accessories_view.pdf -- accessories for the Cambo SC. Nearly all fit newer Cambos.

Ebony:

https://jeff-keller.com/wp-content/uploads/4/2018/12/hi-res-catalog.pdf SV45, 45SU, 45S, 23S, SV23, SV57, SV810, SW810, SW45/SW23, RW45 and accessories

https://web.archive.org/web/20010602131244/http://www.ebonycamera.com:80/cam.html many captures, you may have to look at several to find what you're looking for. The latest captures have digital camera, ideal for short lenses.

Meridian:

https://www.manualslib.com/manual/1001061/Meridian-45b.html#product-45B Not archived.

M.P.P.

http://mppusers.co.uk/wordpress/ Most of the site is behind a paywall. I haven't paid, can't see the technical information so can't evaluate. Reading the forum, which has little activity, is free. An old version of the site is accessible at https://web.archive.org/web/20140107165017/http://mppusers.com/ If you're desperate for information about an MPP press or view camera, go to the new site, ante up and hope that what you want is there.

Sinar:

Look in the B&H sourcebook at Modern (relatively) LF and medium format gear:

https://web.archive.org/web/20140728034706/http://www.philipmorgan.net/wp-content/uploads/2009/RoughGuideSinarNormaCLA.pdf Sinar Norma CLA guide

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Toho Shimo FC-45x:

http://www.thalmann.com/largeformat/toho.htm Cute little thing.

Toyo:

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00273/00273.pdf VX 125/B/R, 45C/CX/G II/GX, 810GII, 57GII, Field 45A II/II L, 810M II

Wista:

https://www.wista.co.jp/e_wista/english.htm

Tachihara (in Japanese, Google Translate helps a little):

https://web.archive.org/web/20130927104529/http://www.netlaputa.ne.jp/~tachi-ss/sub1.html

Omera aerial cameras:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kjt0s3x12k2oe8k/AABzWGIMEMwt1rUaq-Cpcm7Xa?dl=0 In French. Not all LF. Can't be archived, sorry.

One-shot color cameras:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/attachment.php?attachmentid=174312&d=1517510862 Curtis One-Shot Color Cameras. Not archived.

http://www.butkus.org/chinon/devin/devin.htm The Devin TriColor Camera.

Optics (basic):

https://web.archive.org/web/20141229200841/http://toothwalker.org/optics.html Paul Van Walree's old site, now gone. He has a new site, says the old site's optics info will eventually be put up on it

Process lenses as taking lenses for general photography:

https://1drv.ms/b/s!AggQfcczvHGN3mZFECo0TkEroL5G

Puyo-Pulligny:

http://cnum.cnam.fr/CGI/redire.cgi?8KE464 All about their anachromatic soft focus lenses from the horses' mouths. In French. Not archived, alas.

Radiation, effects on glasses:

https://www.spiedigitallibrary.org/conference-proceedings-of-spie/10569/105691R/Radiation-impact-on-the-characteristics-of-optical-glasses-test-results/10.1117/12.2307918.full?SSO=1 In a high radiation environment (space) so for us largely theoretical, but still interesting. Not archived, sorry.

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Reflex finders:

http://www.bnphoto.org/bnphoto/LFN/ReflexFinders1.html is a nice account of many.

Repair services:

https://www.rolleigraphy.org/repair.php Rollei specialists, but they do other things too. This list is actively maintained and repair shops come and go so I haven't archived it.

Rochester camera and lens companies:

http://bvipirate.com/Kodak/Rochester.html Kingslake's history. Not about lenses, about their makers.

Rodenstock LF lenses (mainly recent lenses):

https://1drv.ms/f/s!AggQfcczvHGNgkRF8Zr2JUIWlEgq Some current and discontinued lenses. Not perfect but the most complete. It has documentation on "new" center filters.

http://www.rodenstock-photo.com/Archiv/e_Rodenstock_Analog_Lenses_27-42__8226.pdf Contains documentation for "old (2.5x)" center filters.

http://www.prograf.ru/rodenstock/largeformat_en.html Fewer lenses than the onedrive link above has, but has data on 300/5.6 Macro Sironar and on Imagons that the onedrive link lacks.

http://www.rodenstock-photo.com/ Current production only.

www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00718/00718.pdf 1912 catalog.

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00817/00817.pdf 1982 catalog, has Sironar-N and Geronar info

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00863/00863.pdf before 1982, has jes' plain Sironar and Grandagon info

http://www.rodenstock-photo.com/Archiv/Objektive%20digitale%20Fotografie%20e.pdf Rodenstock's digital lenses: HR Digaron-S, HR Digaron-W/SW, Apo-Sironar digital, Apo-Macro-Sironar digital

https://web.archive.org/web/20141007140414/http://www.rodenstock-photo.com/mediabase/original/Production_Date_Rodenstock_Lenses_8452.doc Production dates of Rodenstock lenses through 2008.

Roll holders:

https://1drv.ms/f/s!AggQfcczvHGNmC0J8_On1nsD3l0F Horseman, Linhof Super Rollex, Linhof Techno Rollex, Sinar (parts list too) and Toyo user manuals. Roll holder specifications, thanks to Oren Grad.

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See Graphic press cameras for Graflex roll holders.

http://graflex.org/speed-graphic/adapt-a-roll.html

http://mercurycamera.com/backs/complete-guide-to-graflok-23-backs-graflex-mamiya-rb67-horseman-and-mercury/ Like nearly everything that claims to be complete, it isn't. I can think of at least three roll holders it missed. In alphabetical order, Linhof (Super Rollex), Toyo and Wista. Gives gate sizes for some roll holders. Well worth looking at.

https://www.central-manuals.com/instructions_manual_user_guide_camera/linhof.php Techno Rollex (6x12). Not archived.

Schneider LF lenses:

https://web.archive.org/web/20170208112545/https://www.schneideroptics.com/ For older lenses, click on "Photography," then hover over the info tab. Many of this site's links point to pages that no longer exist. If you click on one and get the dread 404 message, paste the link into archive.org. Not all of the lost pages have been archived, but looking in archive.org is usually worth the trouble.

http://web.archive.org/web/20100922053809/http://www.schneiderkreuznach.com/archiv/archiv.htm Mid-1950s to around 2000 or so. Brought to my attention by Oren Grad, to whom much credit is due.

http://web.archive.org/web/20121115075344/http://www.schneiderkreuznach.com/service/serie.htm The official serial number to date map

http://www.butkus.org/chinon/schneider_lenses/schneider_lenses_1937.htm 1937 catalog

https://1drv.ms/b/s!AggQfcczvHGNjmAHEA-rmrikk98S Possibly the last Schneider LF lens brochure. Downloaded from www.linhof.com

https://1drv.ms/x/s!AggQfcczvHGN0kIjB_63NhzCEsV5 Recognizing dagor type G-Clarons

A few people who haven't read this section of the list have complained on at least one LF bulletin board that Schneider's sites no longer have the information they want. I doubt any of them will see this, but here's what has happened and how to cope:

> Unfortunately Schneider has been removing pages from schneiderkreuznach.com for quite some time. Years, in fact. www.schneideroptics.com seems to be gone completely, redirects to www.schneiderkreuznach.com.
>
> If you have an old link that gets a 404 error or redirects to www.schneiderkreuznach.com try using www.archive.org to find an archived

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version of the page. Most have been saved there, some many times. The best thing to do once in archive.org is to try a relatively old save. If it shows a 404 error -- I've seen them -- try an older one.

If you want to look around in Schneider documentation, use archive.org to find a backed up version of either site. Again, the older the back up the better.

Searching in web sites:

The Web sites/Forums that are good sources for information and help with LF have search engines that work poorly. I don't use their search engines, instead use Google Advanced Search at https://www.google.com/advanced_search to search them. I put the search terms in the "Find pages with" section, put the domain name in the "Then narrow your results by ..." section's "site or domain" window.

Series filter sizes:

https://www.apotelyt.com/photo-accessory/series-filters

Shutters (ancient) described:

http://www.earlyphotography.co.uk/site/entry_S1.html figures and describes a number of ancient shutters. Its parent site http://www.earlyphotography.co.uk/ is interesting and may be worth wandering through. Doesn't cover everything – what does? – and is quite idiosyncratic.

http://www.mikeeckman.com/2018/03/introducing-the-packard-ideal-shutter-company/ Packard shutter history and more. Thanks to Randy Sweatt for posting the link.

https://1drv.ms/b/s!AggQfcczvHGN7GfjkkVoxlSuGaCV Bernard Sulmon, who posts on galerie-photo.info as photo-collector, on air-powered shutters. In French, some catalog pages in English.

Shutters' dimensions etc:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?23904-Compound-shutter-sizes Ole Tjugen on Compound shutters

http://www.suaudeau.eu/memo/pratique/Les_obturateurs_centraux.html Benoit Suadeau's list of leaf shutters.

http://www.skgrimes.com/products/new-copal-shutters SKGrimes' list

https://web.archive.org/web/19980703223256/http://www.skgrimes.com/prontor/index.htm Prontor Professional shutters only, not the older less expensive ones

http://www.packardshutter.com/ Packard shutters

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http://www.ground-glass.net/large-format/copal-shutters What it says.

http://www.apug.org/forum/index.php?threads/dial-set-compur-shutters.138914/ Fuller information on dial-set Compurs' sizes. And more on early rim-set Compur, Vario,

Pronto and Ibsor shutters: http://www.apug.org/forum/index.php?threads/rim-set-compurs-and-gauthier-shutter.138945/ Incomplete information, tube lengths and threading not mentioned.

https://sizes.com/tools/shutter_photo.htm More complete information on Wollensak shutters' sizes than any of the sources above.

http://www.bnphoto.org/bnphoto/KodakShutters.htm Shutters for Kodak lenses.

Bernard Sulmon, who posts on galerie-photo.info as photo-collector, posted a downloadable pdf on Copal #3 shutters sizes, in French, on cjoint.com. I've mirrored it at https://1drv.ms/b/s!AggQfcczvHGN30fHJeOkdIGWUzbz

Bernard Sulmon posted a downloadable pdf on Sinar Sinar-Copal shutters. In French. I've mirrored it at https://1drv.ms/b/s!AggQfcczvHGN7RxjaN_f1WBIHm-2

https://alphaxbetax.com/resources/ Alphax and Betax shutters. Gives required cable release throws and tube lengths (total thickness) as well as threading.

http://www.galerie-photo.com/ilex-lenses.html The article reports on Ilex shutters too.

Shutters, repairing:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B1sPJkp-MdghNGM1aGY5akgtTmc?usp=sharing Four manuals: Servicing Prontor shutters, Prontor Press, Prontor S-SV-SVS1, Prontor S-SV-SVS supplement. Kindly posted by Charles Monday. Not archived.

http://pheugo.com/cameras/index.php Sketchy illustrated directions for dissasembling and cleaning a variety of leaf shutters.

http://www.suaudeau.eu/memo/reparation.html Extensive set of repair manuals, including some for leaf shutters. The shutter repair manuals range from sketchy illustrations of disassembly to complete factory service manuals. In a variety of languages including English, French and German.

https://1drv.ms/b/s!AggQfcczvHGNkGB903fLIOftPx-f Compur shutter repair manual. From the factory, this is the one to use.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5FND3hVDS53THBhTlpWeGM1NmM/view Seiko #0, from Minolta.

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https://drive.google.com/file/d/13WNwS6nkk9dEyORjnAeAP3IQ3HScWoFU/view
Kodak Flash Supermatic shutter repair manual.

Sinaron lenses:

https://books.google.com/books?id=kjvZBAAAQBAJ&pg=PA324&lpg=PA324&dq
lenses for LF, not archived

https://sinar.swiss/assets/Uploads/Sinaron-Digital-Lenses-Data.pdf digital/MF lenses

SKGrimes' table of lenses fitted to shutters:

http://www.skgrimes.com/lens-mounting/table-of-lenses-fitted-to-shutters Doesn't list every possible adaptation, most of the adaptations require machining.

Small and medium format cameras and lenses:

Canon:

http://global.canon/en/c-museum/ Not archived, too deep.

Fuji GX617:

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/01325/01325.pdf Brochure.

Fuji GX680 system:

http://www.galerie-photo.com/fuji-gx-680-boitiers-et-accessoires.html In French, with illustrations and tables that speak for themselves

Hasselblad:

http://www.hasselbladhistorical.eu/ Hasselblad V system cameras and Zeiss lenses for them. Lenses at http://www.hasselbladhistorical.eu/HW/HWLds.aspx

Leica:

Visit Erwin Puts' site: http://www.imx.nl/photo/

Download the first version of Puts' Leica Compendium:
http://leicarumors.com/2011/12/22/download-the-old-version-of-leica-lens-compendium-by-erwin-puts-for-free.aspx/

Mamiya modern digital and legacy film:

http://www.mamiyaleaf.com/documentation.html, includes lenses for the Mamiya Press system and Mamiya 7, excludes Mamiya 6 and lenses for the RB and RZ.

Mamiya RB and RZ lenses:

RB at http://www.mamiyaleaf.com/legacy_RB67.asp

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RZ at http://www.mamiyaleaf.com/legacy_RZ80.asp
Click on "Lenses and Accessories." "Area covered" in the documentation is the size of the subject at the lens' close focusing distance. Counting on the lenses to cover much more than 6x7 doesn't seem safe.

Minolta:

http://www.rokkorfiles.com/

Nikon, Canon and others:

http://www.mir.com.my/rb/photography/photography.htm Strongest on Canon and Nikon 35 mm bodies and lenses. I go here for information about Nikons. Not as easy to navigate as I'd like, worth the effort.

Nikon:

http://imaging.nikon.com/history/ limited but interesting
http://www.photosynthesis.co.nz/nikon/ easier to navigate than
http://www.mir.com.my/rb/photography/photography.htm but less informative

Pentax:

http://www.bdimitrov.de/kmp/lenses/index.html

https://www.pentaxforums.com/lensreviews/
Thanks to Oren Grad for these two links.

Registers:

Willem-Jan Markerink's list. http://web.archive.org/web/20080224144706/http://www.markerink.org/WJM/HTML/mounts.htm

Rolleiflex TLRs:

Charles Monday, who posts on photography forums as Shutterfinger, has very kindly compiled and posted a set of Rollei TLR service manuals on his Google Drive. Download from
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Kg50l0ttSdnWiXQWsNI1X3P5JfasLbOd/view
He says that he may not leave it up for long. It can't be archived, so I've taken the liberty of mirroring it on my OneDrive:
https://1drv.ms/b/s!AggQfcczvHGN5l01CN0_0FtMY1-8

Short lenses that cover 2x3:

https://1drv.ms/x/s!AggQfcczvHGNgYhYGeQuOzsBIyw8Og?e=uIWOnL A list of lenses with focal lengths 65 mm and shorter that cover 2x3 (= 6x9). Most concerned about whether they can be mounted on and focused to infinity on my 2x3 Graphics. Incomplete like all such lists but I don't think anything significant is missing.

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Lenses for 2x3 Graphics:

http://www.galerie-photo.com/telechargement/dan-fromm-6x9-lenses-v2-2011-03-29.pdf My lens diary.

Soft-focus lenses:

http://research-repository.st-andrews.ac.uk/handle/10023/505 and click to download. A doctoral dissertation on soft-focus lenses and pictorialism, not a lens catalog. People interested in pictorialism or soft-focus lenses might find it an interesting read.
http://www.galerie-photo.com/soft-focus-objectif-portrait-flou.html Explanations, lens cross-sections, **example shots**. In French.

www.ens-louis-lumiere.fr Development of optical aberrations in photographic objectives for aesthetic ends. In French. With thanks to Matthieu Thouvard for posting the link on the French LF site.

http://www.galerie-photo.com/flou-photo.html Henri Peyre on softness in painting and in photography. In French, with examples by Henry Peach Robinson (1830 – 1901).

Soviet lenses:

http://www.lallement.com/pictures/files.htm Download the 1963 GOI and 1970 and '71 Yakovlev catalogs. In Russian.

http://www.photohistory.ru/index.php Covers fewer lenses but includes newer ones than the GOI and Yakovlev catalogs. In Russian.

http://www.zenitcamera.com/catalog/lenseslist.html The Zenit archives. Primarily lenses for small format. I think – haven't verified – that the lenses on the list are a subset of the ones discussed on photohistory.ru

Also see East bloc LF lenses.

Targets for evaluating lenses' performance:

http://www.aoassocies.com/mire-de-foucault-petite-mise-au-point In French. Thanks to Henri Gaud for posting the link on the French LF forum.

Taylor, Taylor & Hobson lenses

https://cookeoptics.com/t/compendium.html A mindless compilation of propaganda from TTH catalogs. It is riddled with errors so use it very carefully. The lens-making part of TTH is still active as Cooke Optics. Perhaps because of that the compendium presents the fiction that all of TTH's lenses were branded Cooke.

Tiffen® filters' transmissions:

http://www.tiffen.com/userimages2/Filters/Tiffen_BFILT_Broch_0413.pdf

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Turner-Reich lenses:

See Gundlach lenses:

USAF lenses:

https://archive.org/stream/USAF_lens_datasheets/ Datasheets. No coverage of lenses after the late 1960s.

http://home.earthlink.net/~michaelbriggs/aeroektar/aeroektar.html Aero-Ektars and radiation hazards therefrom.

US Army and Navy photography manuals

https://1drv.ms/b/s!AggQfcczvHGNgZAdsLBna7VzHr3-2A?e=HiI174 With thanks to the person who posts on photrio.com as Kino for posting them there.

Voigtländer large format lenses:

http://www.arnecroell.com/voigtlaender.pdf 1949-1972

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00725/00725.pdf 1914 US catalog

https://www.pacificrimcamera.com/rl/00476/00476.pdf more recent catalog, mainly hand cameras but some lens cross-sections

http://www.cameraeccentric.com/html/info/voigtlander_2.html 1964 professional lenses catalog

Web sites/Forums:

http://www.largeformatphotography.info The associated forum is http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum In my opinion the forum is the best English language LF forum but discussions aren't always at a high level. I have doubts about the quality of some of the information presented on the site. Not everyone agrees with these assessments.

http://www.galerie-photo.com/ The associated forum is http://www.galerie-photo.info/forumgp/ In French. To my taste the main site has more and better information than its US brother and discussions in the forum are at a higher level. Not everyone agrees with me on this.

Both of these sites have search engines that are, um, problematic. I use Google Advanced Search at https://www.google.com/advanced_search to search them. I put the search terms in the "Find pages with" section, put the domain name in the "Then narrow your results by ..." section's "site or domain" window.

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http://graflex.org/ The Help Board isn't very active these days but the site is the best repository of information of Graflex and Graphic cameras and accessories. Questions posted on the Help Board are usually answered promptly.

https://viewcameraaustralia.org/ "*View Camera Australia blog is dedicated to users of large format cameras and photographers using darkrooms to make photographs.*"

Wollensak LF lenses:

http://www.cameraeccentric.com/html/info/wollensak_14.html Cross-sections on p. 52.

https://alphaxbetax.com/wollensak-lens-and-shutter-compendium/ Many catalogs, including a 1962(?) catalog of Wollensak's process lenses and much, much more . Well worth exploring. To find the process lens catalog, click on Wollensak Catalogs Etc. and scroll down to 1962? Wollensak Raptar Lenses for the Graphic Arts Not archived, alas.

Wratten® filters' transmission:

http://www.karmalimbo.com/aro/pics/filters/transmision%20of%20wratten%20filters.pdf For some of the information in the link above presented in graphical form, see post #6 in https://web.archive.org/web/20170809230137/http://www.largeformatphotography.info/forum/showthread.php?140628-Filters-8-or-12-or-15. Thanks to Emmanuel Bigler for posting it. Unfortunately it can't be archived.

Zeiss Ikon:

http://cnum.cnam.fr/CGI/redire.cgi?M11193 1928 catalog. A little lens info, many cameras, most unheard of nowadays. Not archived, alas.

Zeiss Jena:

1901 Zeiss London catalog: http://books.google.com/books?id=cnkWAAAAYAAJ&dq=zeiss+unar&source=gbs_navlinks_s CZ London, really. In English. Click on the little starry wheel in the upper right corner of the screen to download as a PDF.

1910 catalog: http://cnum.cnam.fr/redir?M11192 In French. Not archived, alas.

Post-WW II: http://www.arnecroell.com/czj.pdf

Zeiss Oberkochen:

http://www.arnecroell.com/zeissoberkochen.pdf Large format only, 1950-72.

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